GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1761
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2012
MEDICAL STUDENTS AIIMS
Das Shri Bhakta Charan

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the death of Medical students belonging to Scheduled Caste (SC)/Scheduled Tribe (ST) community in All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS);

(b) if so, the reasons behind such incidents;

(c) whether the Government has initiated any action to stop such incidents in future;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) & (b) Recently a student of MBBS of 2010 batch, Shri Anil Kumar Meena belonging to Scheduled Tribe committed suicide in his hostel room on 4th March, 2012. Since no suicide note has been left behind by the deceased, the exact cause of his suicide is not known as yet. The institute has approved a total financial assistance of Rs. 15.00 lakh to the family of deceased. In addition, it has also been committed that immediate family members of the deceased will be provided free treatment at AIIMS.

(c) to (e) Counseling sessions for stress management are already in existence. Further, in order to prevent recurrence of such incidents, the institute has decided to take various steps including the following:

i. formation of a committee with Prof Sukhdev Thorat to examine the extent to which the earlier recommendations of Thorat Committee, constituted to enquire into the allegations of differential treatment of\SC/ST students in AIIMS, have been implemented by institute and further measures to be taken.

ii. organization of self enrichment courses for the first year MBBS students in AIIMS through Centre for Research and Education for Social Transformation.

iii. monthly meetings of Director of the institute along with Dean with student Unions, Resident Doctor's Association etc.

iv. appointment of a senior professor as Student Welfare Officer and setting up of a Grievance Cell under his overall supervision.

v. establishment of a Faculty Guardian Mentoring System

vi. semester-wise attendance assessment and arrangement of additional classes/tutorials on important topics for students with short attendance.

vii. individual interviews of students with psychologists/psychiatrist for every two months and more often, if needed.

viii. sharing of the presentation/handouts of lectures of faculty with the students and arrangement of Hindi translation of these lectures/handouts.